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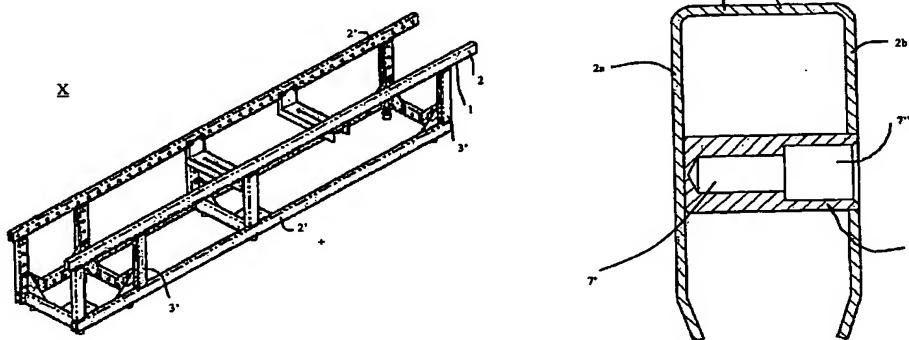
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(54) Title: MULTIFUNCTIONAL CONSTRUCTIONAL MODULAR ELEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PACKAGING MACHINE FRAME



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a machine frame (1) for a packaging machine being constructed in such a way that its manufacture is simple and flexible for the various widths and lengths of foil packaging material without having the need for an expensive and labour intensive intercoupling. This machine frame is also robust and interiorly good cleanable, so that hygienic risks may be substantially decreased. This machine-building element comprises a profile element (2) made of strong sheet material, like e.g. metal or plastic material, comprising a mainly straight horizontal part (2c) that tapers off on both sides over an angle of approximately 90° to two downwardly directed vertical parts (2a, 2b). These parts are longitudinally interconnected completely to a compact unit by means of a plurality of hollow functional sockets (7). These functional sockets are each provided with internal threading (7') to receive an appropriate coupling element or module to be used in a machine construction, like e.g. an adapter socket. Frame girders (2') as well as frame stands (3') for a packaging machine may be constructed from these multifunctional constructional modular elements for machine-building purposes. This results in a machine frame construction which is very flexible, robust and interiorly well cleanable.

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 F16M F16B E04C E04B B65B.

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 31 31 955 A (WILLACH GMBH GEB) 10 March 1983 (1983-03-10) page 10, line 31 – page 12, line 3 figures 1,3-7	1,4
A	-----	2,3
X	US 5 426 919 A (NATTERER JOHANN ET AL) 27 June 1995 (1995-06-27) figures 1,2a,3,6a column 1, line 59 – column 3, line 6	1,5,6
X	FR 1 386 323 A (VALLOUREC) 22 January 1965 (1965-01-22) page 1, right-hand column, line 3 – line 33 figures 1,5a,8	1,4
A	----- -/-	2,3

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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